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C. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing customer security features by a security server, said method comprising:
~~receiving a request from a requestor;~~
receiving an edit request from a customer, the edit request including a customer identifier and one or more updated security features, the updated security features each including a security item identifier;
authenticating the customer; ~~requestor;~~ and
locating a stored security feature corresponding to each of the security item identifiers, wherein the stored security features are stored in a data area corresponding to the customer; and
manipulating one or more of the stored security features stored in a the data area corresponding to a the customer in response to the request, wherein the manipulating includes replacing the stored security features with the updated security features.
2. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 1 wherein at least one of the stored security features is selected from the group consisting of a photograph of the customer, a customer signature, a digital signature corresponding to the customer, a fingerprint, and a description of the customer.
3. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
receiving one or more new security features from the customer;

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assigning ~~an~~ a new item identifier to each of the new security features; and
storing the new security features in the data area corresponding to the customer.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
receiving an authorization from a the customer, the authorization including a first merchant identifier;
storing the authorization;
receiving a retrieval request from a merchant, the retrieval request including a the customer identifier corresponding to the customer and a second merchant identifier corresponding to the merchant;
validating the merchant request, the validating including:
retrieving the authorization; and
comparing the first merchant identifier to the second merchant identifier; and
returning one or more of the stored security features corresponding to the customer in response to the first merchant identifier matching the second merchant identifier.
5. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:
receiving an authorization from a the customer, the authorization including a public key corresponding to ~~the~~ a merchant;
storing the authorization and the merchant's public key;
receiving an encrypted retrieval request from a the merchant, the encrypted retrieval request encrypted

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using a private key corresponding to the merchant's public key;
deciphering the encrypted retrieval request using the stored public key; and
returning one or more of the stored security features corresponding to the customer in response to the deciphering.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 6 ~~further comprising:~~ 1, wherein the authenticating comprises:
~~verifying the customer, the verifying including:~~
receiving a secret customer identifier from the customer; and
comparing the secret customer identifier with a stored secret customer identifier corresponding to the customer.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as described in claim 1 wherein the request includes an encrypted packet that is encrypted using a private key corresponding to the ~~requester,~~ customer, the method further comprising:
locating a stored public key corresponding to the ~~requester,~~ customer; and
deciphering the encrypted packet using the stored public key, the deciphering verifying the identity of the ~~requester,~~ customer, wherein the manipulating is performed in response to the encrypted packet being successfully deciphered.

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9. (Currently Amended) An information handling system comprising:
- one or more processors;
 - a memory accessible by the processors;
 - a network interface for communicating with other information handling systems;
 - one or more nonvolatile storage areas accessible by the processors; and
 - a security feature management tool to manage customer security features, the security feature management tool including:
 - ~~means for receiving a request from a requestor;~~
 - means for receiving an edit request from a customer, the edit request including a customer identifier and one or more updated security features, the updated security features each including a security item identifier;
 - ~~means for authenticating the requestor; customer;~~
 - means for loading a stored security feature corresponding to each of the security item identifiers, wherein the stored security features are stored in a data area corresponding to the customer; and
 - means for manipulating one or more of the stored security features stored in a the data area corresponding to a the customer in response to the request, wherein the manipulating includes replacing the stored security features with the updated security features.

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10. (Currently Amended) The information handling system as described in claim 9 wherein the request includes an encrypted packet that is encrypted using a private key corresponding to the ~~requester~~, customer, the information handling system further comprising:
- means for locating a stored public key corresponding to the ~~requester~~, customer; and
 - means for deciphering the encrypted packet using the stored public key, the deciphering verifying the identity of the ~~requester~~, customer, wherein the manipulating is performed in response to the encrypted packet being successfully deciphered.
11. (Currently Amended) The information handling system as described in claim 9 further comprising:
- means for receiving an authorization from a the customer, the authorization including a first merchant identifier;
 - means for storing the authorization;
 - means for receiving a retrieval request from a merchant, the retrieval request including a the customer identifier corresponding to the customer and a second merchant identifier corresponding to the merchant;
 - means for validating the merchant request, the validating including:
 - retrieving the authorization; and
 - comparing the first merchant identifier to the second merchant identifier; and
 - means for returning one or more of the stored security features corresponding to the customer in response to

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the first merchant identifier matching the second merchant identifier.

12. (Currently Amended) The information handling system as described in claim 9 further comprising:
means for receiving one or more new security features from the customer;
means for assigning ~~an~~ a new item identifier to each of the new security features; and
means for storing the new security features in the data area corresponding to the customer.
13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product stored on a computer operable medium for managing customer security features by a security server, said computer program product comprising:
~~means for receiving a request from a requester;~~
means for receiving an edit request from a customer, the edit request including a customer identifier and one or more updated security features, the updated security features each including a security item identifier;
~~means for authenticating the requester; and customer;~~
means for locating a stored security feature corresponding to each of the security item identifiers, wherein the stored security features are stored in a data area corresponding to the customer; and
means for manipulating one or more of the stored security features stored in a the data area corresponding to a the customer in response to the request, wherein the manipulating includes replacing the stored security features with the updated security features.

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14. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim 13 wherein at least one of the stored security features is selected from the group consisting of a photograph of the customer, a customer signature, a digital signature corresponding to the customer, a fingerprint, and a description of the customer.
15. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim 13 further comprising:
means for receiving one or more new security features from the customer;
means for assigning ~~a~~ a new item identifier to each of the new security features; and
means for storing the new security features in the data area corresponding to the customer.
16. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim 13 further comprising:
means for receiving an authorization from ~~a~~ the customer, the authorization including a first merchant identifier;
means for storing the authorization;
means for receiving a retrieval request from a merchant, the retrieval request including ~~a~~ the customer identifier corresponding to the customer and a second merchant identifier corresponding to the merchant;
means for validating the merchant request, the validating including:
retrieving the authorization; and
comparing the first merchant identifier to the second merchant identifier; and

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means for returning one or more of the stored security features corresponding to the customer in response to the first merchant identifier matching the second merchant identifier.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim 13 further comprising:
means for receiving an authorization from a the customer, the authorization including a public key corresponding to the merchant;
means for storing the authorization and the merchant's public key;
means for receiving an encrypted retrieval request from a merchant, the encrypted retrieval request encrypted using a private key corresponding to the merchant's public key;
means for deciphering the encrypted retrieval request using the stored public key; and
means for returning one or more of the stored security features corresponding to the customer in response to the deciphering.
18. (Cancelled)
19. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim ~~18~~ further comprising: 13, wherein the means for authenticating comprises:
~~means for verifying the customer, the verifying including:~~
means for receiving a secret customer identifier from the customer; and

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means for comparing the secret customer identifier
with a stored secret customer identifier
corresponding to the customer.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as described in claim 13 wherein the request includes an encrypted packet that is encrypted using a private key corresponding to the ~~requester~~, customer, the computer program product further comprising:
means for locating a stored public key corresponding to the ~~requester~~, customer; and
means for deciphering the encrypted packet using the stored public key, the deciphering verifying the identity of the ~~requester~~, customer, wherein the manipulating is performed in response to the encrypted packet being successfully deciphered.